

## TO PROBE MILES' CHARGES

THE WAR DEPARTMENT ISSUED A SPECIAL ORDER LAST NIGHT.

Board of Officers to Assemble Next Tuesday—To Inquire Into General Subject of the Quality of Beef Supplies—To Fix Responsibility for Loss of the 300,000 Pounds of Swift Beef.

Washington, Dec. 30.—As a result of the issue between General Miles and General Egan concerning the quality of the beef supplied the army, and on the written request of General Egan, the war department to-night issued a special order for the assembling of a board of officers in Washington on next Tuesday to inquire into the general subject of the quality of the beef supplies, and particularly as to the responsibility for the loss of 300,000 pounds of refrigerator beef sent to Porto Rico when the expedition under General Miles was there.

The special order is as follows:

"By direction of the secretary of war, a board of survey is hereby ordered to convene at the war department, Washington, D. C., at 10 a. m. January 3, 1899, to examine into and report upon the responsibility for the loss of about 300,000 pounds of refrigerated beef, the property of Swift & Co., of Chicago, to ascertain and report if due and proper effort was made to feed this beef to the troops in Porto Rico, and to fix the responsibility; to ascertain and report the character and quality of the refrigerated beef herein referred to; to ascertain and report if it was good and fit meat for issue, if it had been subjected to any chemical processes whatsoever, and to report whether or not the United States is responsible for its loss, or who, if anyone, is responsible for its loss, and whether in its opinion Swift & Co. should or should not be reimbursed for the beef. Details of the board: Colonel Charles P. Alden, assistant surgeon general; Colonel John H. Moore, assistant quartermaster general; Colonel Francis I. Gunther, 4th artillery; Captain L. C. Sherrer, assistant adjutant general, recorder."

The 300,000 pounds of beef referred to was shipped from Newport News to Porto Rico about the time that word came from General Miles that he had supplied himself with fresh beef taken on the island. The refrigerated beef made the trip to Porto Rico and back, but by the time it reached Montauk Point it is understood to have spoiled owing to the delay and consequent lack of refrigerating material. General Egan to-day received from Lieutenant Colonel Smith, the commissary officer at Chicago, a report made by Armour & Co., who furnished the army a large part of its tinned roast beef. The report was in response to interrogatories. It says: "Our system of preparing and putting up our roast and corned beef is by the Appert process, invented in 1809. This process has been well known to scientific inquiry since the date of its invention, but its commercial use by manufacturers and dealers in canned meats may be said to be limited to the past thirty years. Nothing has been discovered that produces superior results. There never has been any complaint of deterioration of the contents of cans put up by this process."

"We have been putting up and selling tinned roast and corned beef for the past twenty-five years and have been supplying consumers of food products for this entire period. All grocers and meat markets have these goods, and have had them on sale during this length of time, and no objection has been raised to their use by consumers, nor has there been any detrimental results following their consumption. The use of these descriptions of goods is annually increasing. We have put up during the past twenty or thirty years about two hundred million pounds of roast and corned beef. During the past five years we have sold to the British government for army and navy use, largely in India and Egypt, nearly 25,000,000 pounds and to the French government within the past six or seven years about an equal quantity. To the republic of Brazil and to South Africa we are now annually shipping thousands of tons of these goods. No chemicals of any description are used by us in the manufacture of our tinned roast beef or corned beef."

## INTER-COLLEGIATE CHESS.

Harvard Still Ahead in Tournament—Yale-Princeton Tied.

New York, Dec. 30.—Play in the inter-collegiate chess tournament between the students from Columbia, Harvard, Yale and Princeton universities was resumed in this city this afternoon. The order of play and the openings adopted were as follows: First table: A. M. Webb, Yale, vs. K. G. Falk, Columbia, queen's pawn. Second table: C. F. C. Arenberg, Harvard, vs. A. S. Weston, Pennsylvania, third table: L. A. Cook, Yale, vs. A. S. Meyer, Columbia, queen's pawn. Fourth table: E. E. Southard, Harvard, vs. J. A. Ely, Pennsylvania, French defence. Webb was beaten by Falk on the first board. The latter gained a pawn in the middle stage of the game and by playing very carefully he won after fifty-five moves. Weston at one time looked a winner over Arenberg, but later he did not understand how to treat the game properly and lost after sixty-five moves. The game was adjudicated. Cook went down before Meyer in consequence of a blunder on the part of the Yale man, who lost a piece by an oversight, and Meyer won finely after forty-seven moves. Southard outplayed Ely in the middle game, and won after thirty-seven moves. The record of the tournament to date reads: Harvard, 8 1-2 won, 1 1-2 lost; Columbia 6 1-2 won, 3 1-2 lost; Princeton 3 won, 7 lost; Yale 3 won, 1 lost.

## ADAMS-CORNISH CASE.

Former Member of Knickerbocker Club Now Under Suspicion.

New York, Dec. 30.—Captain George M. McCuskey, chief of the detective bureau, firmly believes that he has solved the mystery surrounding the attempt to kill Harry Cornish, physical instructor of the Knickerbocker Athletic club, by sending him poison through the mails. At 9 o'clock last night Captain McCuskey stated that he would have the culprit in custody within twelve hours. The name of the suspected murderer is withheld from publication, lest its announcement should defeat the ends of justice. The man under surveillance was formerly a member of the Knickerbocker Athletic club. He was at one time a man of high social and financial standing in this city. In late years through evil habits his descent was rapid. From being popular in the athletic world he latterly developed into a person with whom the members of the club felt that they could not associate. It was the conviction that he was unfit to be a member of the club. Finally a special meeting of the club was called to act upon his case. He was ignominiously expelled. It is well known that he from the first associated Mr. Cornish with the revelation of facts which led to this action.

All the energies of the police are being now devoted to completing the chain of evidence against the suspect. Mr. Cornish was by no means the only man in the Knickerbocker club against whom this degenerate is said to have a deadly hostility. It is said that he was unqualified in his expressions of dislike for the man. In November last Mr. Barnett of the club received a parcel which came to him through the mails. This parcel contained a powder, which Mr. Barnett unhesitatingly took internally. It was only by the almost superhuman exertions of Drs. Hudlas and Phillips that he was saved from immediate death. Twelve days later Mr. Barnett died. The cause of his death was diagnosed under another name, but it was an open secret that it was directly attributable to the powder. The latest link in the chain of evidence which the police up to last night had succeeded in getting against the suspect was by a comparison of his writing with that upon the parcel addressed to Mr. Cornish. Although the writing on the parcel was obviously disguised, its resemblance to that of the expelled member of the athletic club was in many particulars striking. It is said that the police have submitted the two handwritings to an expert, who has pronounced them to be unquestionably the work of the same person.

## MRS. BOTKIN GUILTY.

Killed Another Woman With Poisoned Candy—Imprisonment for Life.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—The jury in the case of Mrs. Cordelia Botkin, charged with the murder of Mrs. John P. Dunning of Dover, Del., to-night returned a verdict of murder in the first degree, with punishment fixed at life imprisonment. Late this afternoon District Attorney Hosmer completed his argument and Judge Carroll Cook read his charge to the jury, after which it retired for deliberation. In his address Mr. Hosmer ridiculed the defense for its contention that members of the police department in this city, or even the chemists who had testified, might have inserted the poison in the box of candy made out a case. He asserted that the attacks of the defense had ended in naught; that not one witness had been contradicted. Mr. Hosmer argued that the anonymous letters and had written the address on the box of candy. Mr. Hosmer asked the jury to return a just verdict, a verdict of murder in the first degree. Mrs. Botkin cried bitterly several times during the day, and during the reading of the judge's charge almost lost control of herself.

## FEDERATION OF GRADUATE CLUBS.

Wendell M. Strong of Yale Elected President—Mr. Strong's Paper.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 30.—The Federation of Graduate clubs held its closing session this forenoon in Harvard hall. President Raymond McDonald Alden was in the chair. Wendell M. Strong of Yale read a paper in reply to the question "What can the Federation do to unite the interest of local clubs?" He suggested the importance of correspondence as a means of bringing the different clubs together. The discussion in this paper led by W. J. Trusdell of the Western Reserve was followed by routine business. Officers were elected as follows: President, Wendell M. Strong, Yale; vice presidents, Miss Emily Fogg, Bryn Mawr; Allen H. Willet, Columbia, and James B. Learned, Harvard; recording secretary, C. Robert Gaston, Cornell; corresponding secretary, Miss Elizabeth Faulkner, University of Chicago; treasurer, W. J. Trusdell.

## CONSOLIDATION OF PAPER MAKERS.

Preliminary Steps Taken—Will Involve About \$40,000,000.

Providence, R. I., Dec. 30.—Dean & Sabley, brokers and bankers of this city, have taken charge of the arrangements to consolidate the paper manufacturers of this country. The deal will involve about \$40,000,000, and will include the mills making writing paper, bond paper, wrapping, ledger, envelope and newspaper. The purpose of the consolidation of conflicting interests is to eliminate competition, stop over production and make a condensation of the lines of manufacture so that the mill best adapted to make a certain grade of paper may restrict its attention to that specialty and thus, by utilizing all the machinery and capital interested to the best advantage, to get the best results.

## Green Defeats Creedon.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—Green gets the decision over Creedon in the fight to-night.

## SERIOUS SITUATION IN SPAIN

THE ADVENT OF THE CONSERVATIVES TO POWER.

Only Delayed by Sagasta's Illness—Ministers Had All Resigned When Premier Was Stricken—A Question of Extraordinary Gravity Which Threatens National Life—Fears Over British Aims.

Madrid, Dec. 30.—El Liberal publishes an interview with a minister, whose name is not given, which represents him as declaring that the advent of the conservatives to power is only delayed by Senor Sagasta's illness. "All the ministers," says the one in question, "had handed in their resignations, but the premier's illness stayed off the crisis. But above all the problems of interior politics there is one question of extraordinary gravity affecting the very existence of the fatherland. This question pre-occupies our statesmen so deeply that it would suffice to unite them to prevent fresh catastrophes. It is impossible to speak clearly on this point. I can only say the pre-occupation includes fears of apprehended events which might give a pretext for a thing England is pursuing with effect." The interview has caused much comment and much anxiety is felt as to what the ministerial organs will have to say.

## AMERICA'S IMPERIAL POLICY.

London Times Attacks Importance to It in Its Annual Review.

London, Dec. 31.—The Times this morning, in its annual review of the events of the war, devote considerable space to the Hispano-American war, which it regards as of even greater importance than the Nile campaign "because it resulted apparently in the definite adoption of a new Imperial and military policy by the United States." The article applauds the Washington government for declining to surrender the lives and property of Spaniards in Cuba to the tender mercies of the Cubans, but regrets that no compensation is paid with respect to Cuba although undoubtedly a large part of the Cuban debt was expended on public works. The Times pays a high tribute to the "dignified manner in which Spain has accepted her reverses."

By common consent all the annual reviews in the morning papers regard the year 1898 as memorable for the Hispano-American war and the "manifest destiny" consciousness of the English speaking peoples. The Daily News referring to President McKinley's speech at Atlanta, says: "We may approve or disapprove the president's sentiments, but in any case, they are one of the new and most memorable facts of 1898. It is devotedly to be hoped that the United States as a world power will be found working in harmony with Great Britain." The Standard refers in similar terms to the advent of a new world power and to the mighty change which the war has affected in the aims, policy and public sentiment of the United States.

## AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN AFFAIRS.

The Provisional Ausgleich Between Dual Monarchy to be Continued.

Budapest, Dec. 30.—The Official Gazette will publish to-morrow—the day when the provisional Ausgleich between Austria and Hungary expires—an imperial decree maintaining the present proportion between the respective shares of expenditure devolving upon the two members of the dual monarchy. Indescribable confusion marked the closing scenes in the lower chamber of the Hungarian diet to-day. Baron Banffy, the premier, attempted to speak; but the tumult was so deafening that he could not be heard and it was necessary to suspend the sitting. When business was resumed the members of the opposition gathered in the center of the floor and kept up an incessant uproar. After repeated vain efforts the premier finally succeeded in speaking; and he concluded his statement by declaring that all responsibility for the situation rested upon those who had persistently obstructed public business.

## NEW BRITISH FORTIFICATIONS.

Charts for Those on New Foundland Coast Sent to England.

St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 30.—Sir Herbert Murray, the governor of New Foundland, dispatched by the British cruiser Pelican, which sailed yesterday for England, important charts and data respecting the proposed fortifications here and the establishment of a naval reserve among the fishermen. The French government, following Great Britain's example, will strengthen its squadron in New Foundland waters next season, appointing to the command Commodore Henniquo, bureau chief at the French naval hydrographic office.

## COLOMBIA AND ITALY.

Report That Relations Are Again Strained—Night Versus Right.

Colon, Colombia, Dec. 30.—The Local Press, referring to-day to the report that the Italian second class cruiser Fieramosca has been ordered to Colombian waters to demand satisfaction for alleged recent insults offered to Italian naval officers, says Colombia "should act with dignity, prudence and forbearance so as to attract the attention of the nations of the world to the repeated display of might versus right."

## Bubonic Plague Report Contradicted.

Pretoria, Dec. 30.—An official contradiction is given to-day to the report that the bubonic plague has broken out in the Delagoa Bay district.

## CURZON'S RECEPTION IN INDIA.

The Stars and Stripes Prominent in the Flag Display.

London, Dec. 31.—The Bombay correspondent of the Times says: The stars and stripes were prominent in the flag display on the arrival of Lord and Lady Curzon. The natives showed their eagerness to obtain a look at their new ruler. Lord Curzon's replies to the various addresses presented, while promising to give earnest consideration to what was recommended and declaring a willingness to profit by the advice of members of the chambers of commerce and other bodies, firmly declined, at the present stage, to make any pronouncement on the currency or other problems facing India. A feature of the reception was the cordiality of all the castes. The Bombay correspondent of the Daily Mail says: Lord Curzon's speech made a favorable impression. His promise to "hold the scales even" between the native and ruling communities was generally commented on. The victory was dressed in a white hat and gray frock coat, with the decoration of the star of India. Lady Curzon was charming in a dress of pale green, not rather low, a necklace of pearls and a white picture hat. On entering the native city there were no troops, the viceroy preferring to meet the natives without a military display. This tactful arrangement was greatly appreciated. This part of Bombay fairly swarmed with the most diverse nationalities and costumes. Lord and Lady Curzon took the children with them in the procession. The natives were struck by Lord Curzon's youthful appearance. In traveling to Calcutta strict orders had been issued that no train is to pass the vice royal special between stations. The vice royal party will not travel by night. The train will be shunted to a siding, where the party will sleep until day-break.

## BRAZILIAN PARLIAMENT.

Closes After Passing Budget in Which Expenses Exceed Receipts.

Rio Janeiro, Dec. 30.—Parliament closed to-day. The budget expenses are 388,724 centos. The receipts are estimated at 351,000 centos. Extradition with the United States and other republics was approved.

## SPAIN'S LAST DAY IN HAVANA.

Her Flag to be Lowered Sunday—Firing of Salutes.

Havana, Dec. 30.—At 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, January 1, the United States troops will occupy the plaza in front of the captain general's palace and the adjacent streets, the Spanish soldiers withdrawing and proceeding to the transports awaiting them. Captain General Castellanos and the members of his staff will remain in the captain general's apartments. Early in the morning details of United States troops will enter Morro Castle and Cabanas fortress, the Spanish troops thereupon withdrawing to the transports, with the exception of a detachment of artillerymen, who will remain behind to fire a salute to the American flag. The United States military commissioners and their staffs, Major General Brooke, Major General Lee, military governor of the province of Havana; Major General Ludlow, military governor of the city of Havana, and Commodore John W. Philip, commander of the United States naval forces at Havana, will join Captain General Castellanos toward noon in the state saloon of the palace. On the palace roof will be a Spanish officer, probably of captain's rank, sergeants and a guard of private soldiers with Major Butler and a detail of United States infantry. Immediately following the boom of the American salute to the red and golden flag of Spain, the Spanish officer will lower the flag, and Major Butler will raise the stars and stripes, the Spanish guns saluting. The latter salute will carry its special significance to the brilliant company inside the palace, and Captain General Castellanos, in a few words, will transfer the government of the city of Havana to the United States military commission, who after replying to the captain general will transfer it to Major General Brooke, military governor of Cuba. As soon as these ceremonies are over Captain General Castellanos will leave the palace, escorted by the United States troops, proceeding across the plaza to the steamer Rabat, upon which he will embark for Matanzas. As the captain general crosses the plaza the United States troops drawn up there will salute. A short reception will follow in the state saloon, after which the American generals and naval commanders will go to the Hotel Inglaterra and review a column of United States troops. The United States military commissioners will probably sail for the United States on January 7.

## FUTURE OF P. R. AND N. E. ROAD.

Will be Transferred to Reorganization Committee Next Month.

Winston, Conn., Dec. 30.—Superintendent W. J. Martin of the Philadelphia, Reading and New England railroad is authority for the statement that the road sold at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., October 6, last, to the reorganization committee, consisting of Arthur Brock, John Shaffer and H. O. Sexias, Philadelphia and New York capitalists, for \$3,807,000, will be transferred to the reorganization committee next month. The road is still in the hands of Receiver James K. O. Sherwood of New York. The new company will have a fresh capital of \$2,000,000, and it has been decided to build the branch from Tariffville, this state, to Springfield. With this extension built it is believed that most of the coal now brought over what was formerly the New England road will be delivered to the Philadelphia, Reading and New England road with advantageous results. The road extends from Hartford to Campbell Hall, N. Y., and is the only road in the state, with one exception, that is not controlled by the Consolidated railroad.

## LATE SEN. MORRILL'S FUNERAL.

Services Will be Held in Senate Chamber at Noon To-day.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The funeral services of the late Senator Morrill will be held in the senate chamber to-morrow at noon, the Rev. Mr. Leavitt, pastor of All Souls' church officiating, assisted by the chaplain of the senate. The services will be of the simplest character. The president, the cabinet and members of the diplomatic corps, will attend. The public galleries will be open to the friends and admirers of the deceased senator. Senator Morrill's remains will be taken to Vermont for interment in charge of a joint committee of senators and representatives conducted by Colonel Bright, the sergeant-at-arms of the senate. The party will leave Sunday morning on the Pennsylvania railroad, the destination being Montpelier, Vt.

## CONNECTICUT SOLDIER'S MAD ACT.

Attempt to Cut Throat of Woman in a Negro Village.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 30.—Charles Peters of Co. L, 3d Connecticut, stationed at Camp Marion, near Summerville, yesterday attempted to cut the throat of the wife of Parson Belamy at Lincolnville, a negro village. She dodged and he cut her in the right cheek. He is supposed to be crazy. He is now under treatment at the brigade hospital.

## CHINA GIVES IN TO FRANCE

EXTENSION OF THE FRENCH SETTLEMENT IN SHANGHAI.

Protests of Sir Claude Macdonald Not Heeded—The Serious Opposition to British Negotiations in the Chinese Foreign Office—Concession to Anglo-American Syndicate.

London, Dec. 31.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Times says: "It is officially asserted here that, in spite of the protests of Sir Claude Macdonald, (the British minister at Peking), China has acceded to the demands for an extension of the exclusive French settlement in Shanghai. This result is due to pressure exercised at Peking and is likely to hamper the negotiations for the extension of the Cosmopolitan settlement, in regard to which the viceroy of Nankin is disposed to meet the views of the British, American and German consuls. The viceroy is greatly chagrined at the failure of Great Britain to support his determined policy in the valley of the Yang Tse Kiang at an important crisis. Satisfactory conclusions are not likely to result from British negotiations anywhere in China so long as the personnel of the Tsung Li Yamen remains, as now, actively hostile to British interests."

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail says: The terms of the final contract respecting the concession to the Anglo-American syndicate of mining and railway privileges in the province of Zee-Chuen have been agreed upon and are now being signed. Zee-Chuen is undoubtedly the richest as well as the largest province in China. Great Britain and the United States get the greater portion, the Chinese and other nationalities getting the balance.

## SPAIN'S LAST DAY IN HAVANA.

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## SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCILMEN.

Majority of Councilmen Petition Mayor on Subject.

Late yesterday afternoon Councilman Slade presented to Mayor Farnsworth a petition signed by twenty-three councilmen, a majority of the board, asking that a special meeting be called for this evening to consider the petition of the firemen that firemen's salaries be fixed by the legislature instead of by the board of fire commissioners. At the meeting Thursday last President Anderson declared that the petition of the firemen was not properly before the board, inasmuch as a member from the fourteenth ward on that committee had voted to recommend it. President Anderson held that this was contrary to the charter, which allows members from the outlying wards to vote only on certain questions. Later, there being no quorum, the meeting was adjourned by Acting President Hall, who had been called to court. The adjournment was bitterly opposed by the friends of the petition, and the petition for another meeting is the next and possibly the last move of the friends of the petition. There is said to be quite a strong sentiment among the firemen themselves that it is unwise to press the petition further at this time, and it is possible that the matter will be allowed a drop without much further agitation.

President Anderson still maintains his position that the petition was not legally recommended by the committee, and has fortified his own opinion by that of the corporation counsel, who says that the member from the Fourteenth ward could not vote on the matter and that his doing so would invalidate any action that the board of councilmen might take. The petition signed by Mayor Farnsworth said last evening that he should probably call the special meeting for this evening, as there is a charter provision that he shall do so when a majority of the councilmen so petition.

## HAVANA MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

Order Establishing Two—Lee Gets Outside Department.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The war department to-night issued an order establishing two departments in and about Havana, viz., the department of Havana, comprising the city proper, suburbs and an area of about ten square miles and the department of the province of Havana, comprising the territory outside of the city proper. Major General Ludlow is assigned to command the department comprising the city and suburbs, and Major General Lee is assigned to the department outside of the city.

## Nearly Fatal Accident.

Joseph Landino, an Italian employed at Winchester's, was caught in the belting yesterday afternoon, sustaining a compound fracture of the left arm. His life was probably saved by the belt breaking. Landino was removed to the hospital.

## Spanish Gunboats Leave Havana.

Havana, Dec. 30.—The Spanish gunboats Hernan Cortez and Pinzon sailed to-day for Spain.

## BETTER SERVICE OR NO FAVOR.

Ultimatum Westville Citizens Would Make to F. H. and W. Company.

Westville residents along the Edgewood avenue branch of the Fair Haven and Westville system were out in force at the meeting of the committee on railroads and bridges held last night for the hearing of citizens on the petition asking that the Fair Haven and Westville road be made to run cars over the line on a fifteen minute schedule, as formerly when the line was under the New Haven Street railway management. At present cars are run as far as the boulevard on a fifteen minute schedule, and from that point to the terminal of the line in Westville on a half hour schedule. The petition also asked that no more favors be granted the street railway until it should provide better car service on the Edgewood line. About one hundred citizens on the line of the road were present to speak in behalf of the petition, among them many of the most prominent residents of Westville. John K. Punderford appeared for the street railway company and urged that it was a business necessity for the road to run cars on a half hour schedule, as at present.

On the part of those who appeared in support of the petition the present management of the Edgewood line was criticized quite severely. Q. M. Groves of the Great Manufacturing company of Westville urged the return to the fifteen minute schedule, saying that since the adoption of the present schedule travel on the Edgewood line had largely decreased. The employees in his factory who had formerly ridden on the Edgewood line now ride entirely on the Whalley avenue line. He said further that he understood the purpose of the Fair Haven and Westville road in making the change was that it might not have to compete with itself on the two lines. He thought that the road had been successful in accomplishing its object, as travel had been largely transferred to the Whalley avenue line. Most business men have to do some things at a loss and thought it no more than fair that the street railway should give accommodations for the people in return for the valuable franchises which are given it.

Others spoke on much the same line, some saying that it was supposed when the right of way was given to the line it was with the supposition that the road would be run at a loss. Others said that the reason the line did not give better service. On a question as to how many favored the petition nearly everyone in the room arose. In executive session the committee voted to refer the matter to the corporation counsel for his opinion as to whether the city has a right to compel the street railway to make the change in the time schedule in the manner asked by the petitioners.

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## TWO BROTHERS DROWNED.

Frank and Joseph Blesington of Rock Falls—Were Skating.

Middletown, Dec. 30.—Frank, aged sixteen, and Joseph, aged twelve, sons of Frank Blesington of Rock Falls, were drowned in the pond back of the Rock Falls woolen mill at 7:30 to-night. They went on the ice to skate and Joseph broke through. In trying to save him Frank, who could swim, was carried under the ice. The accident occurred in the deepest part of the pond. The pond was dragged, but the bodies had not been recovered to-night.

## INQUIRY BOARD RAFFLED.

Fails to Fix Cause of Fatal Explosion of Submarine Mines.

Boston, Dec. 30.—The board of which Colonel Suter is president and which included Major C. J. B. Knight of Willett's Point, Major S. W. Hoessler of Portland and Lieutenant Raymond acting as recorder, appointed to investigate the cause of the explosion of the submarine mines at Castle Mines in Boston harbor December 6, whereby four men were killed, has completed its work. The board has failed to find out the cause of the accident.

## THE INSURGENTS AT ILOILO

INCLINED TO SURRENDER THE TOWN TO AMERICANS.

Wish to be Satisfied Concerning the Form of Government Which Will be Accorded Them—Otis Has Not Yet Received Any News—Spanish Garrison Massacred in Caroline Islands.

Manila, Dec. 30.—The British cruiser Buena Ventura has gone to Iloilo to protect British subjects there. The Spanish steamer Romulus, which has just arrived here, confirms the report that the insurgents at Iloilo are inclined to surrender that town to the Americans if they are satisfied with the form of government which will be accorded them. The British schooner Esmeralda, which has just arrived here from the Ladrone islands, reports the massacre of the Spanish garrison by the combined native forces at Panopli, Caroline islands. Henry Naoli, an educated chief, has been selected to be the ruler. He is reported to be favorable to Americans.

## FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEET.

Firemen Given Leave to Withdraw Petition—General Cutt's Denial.

The meeting of the board of fire commissioners last evening lasted till nearly midnight. Mayor Farnsworth was present. Commissioner Albert C. Hendrick was the only absentee. Mayor Farnsworth stated at the close of the meeting that Commissioner Hendrick's resignation had not been accepted and that no other resignations had been asked for or voluntarily tendered. As to whether there was any discussion as to the advisability of a reorganization of the board the mayor and commissioners maintained silence. The board voted to reconsider its vote of November approving the petition of the members of the fire department, asking that the legislature fix the salaries in the department instead of having the salaries fixed by the commissioners, as at present. After the vote to reconsider was carried it was further voted to give the petitioners leave to withdraw.

The board also voted to pay the members of the department for the last four days of the year the same salaries as they were receiving before the 20 percent cut in salaries were made, provided there is enough money available to do so. It is said that the department has sufficient money for this purpose and so the members of the department can be cheered by the thought that they will receive four days' full pay at the old rate. The board unanimously voted to pay the following salaries for the year 1899: Fire marshal, \$1,600, a decrease of \$80 from the salary paid this year; superintendent of fire alarm, \$1,400, a decrease of \$100; assistant superintendent, \$1,200, a decrease of \$50; master mechanic, \$1,200, a decrease of \$50; engineers, \$1,100, a decrease of \$100. These reductions in salaries are necessary to bring the expenditures of the department within the appropriation.

## COLEBROOK, N. H., BANK TROUBLES.

Demand Made on the Sureties for Treasurer Bailey.

Colebrook, N. H., Dec. 30.—The investigation of the savings bank accounts ended to-night and as a result the institution will suspend business for ten days and a demand has been made on sureties for Treasurer Harry F. Bailey for \$10,125 in cash, the amount due the savings bank out of the funds of the national bank. It is evident from the conditions revealed that the national bank's shortage may seriously embarrass the savings department. As is generally the case when national and savings institutions are under the same management the rule has been for the Colebrook Guarantee Savings bank to place its funds with the Colebrook National bank on deposit. In September last, when the bank was examined, a forced balance of \$14,235 made Treasurer Bailey's accounts all right. The absence of money to make the balance good causes trouble now, but if the sureties provide that the sum the savings bank will be intact.

## RAISING OF REINA MERCEDES.

Wrecking Apparatus Arrives at Santiago, but None Too Soon.

Santiago de Cuba, Dec. 30.—The Merritt & Chapman Co.'s outfit arrived here to-day to raise the former Spanish cruiser Reina Mercedes, which was sunk on the edge of the channel leading to Santiago harbor during the first bombardment of the Santiago fortifications by Admiral Sampson's squadron. The wrecking outfit has arrived none too soon. For several weeks the cruiser, which projects at least one hundred feet over the edge of the channel bank, has been slipping perceptibly toward deep water and she would ultimately have blocked the channel. The superintendent expects to raise her in two weeks, a course greatly preferable to dynamiting her. When raised the vessel will probably be worth to the United States government more than \$250,000 and a great danger to Santiago shipping will be removed.

## Special Police at Marlboro.

Marlboro, Mass., Dec. 30.—In response to the request of the Marlboro city authorities a squad of district police arrived here this evening to assist the local officers in maintaining order during the continuance of the strike.